U.S. Embassy Bahrain

Message for U.S. Citizens - January 11, 2012

On Thursday, 12 January 2012, at approximately 10:00 am, Bahrain's Ministry of the Interior will be conducting a test of the newly installed island-wide notification system.

Similar to those used in the US, the notification system includes sirens located throughout the island and is designed to notify the population of emergencies. The siren will sound for approximately 10 minutes. The test is routine in nature and requires no action.

Should you hear this siren outside the test times, get to a safe place and monitor local media outlets for further instructions.

U.S. citizens traveling and residing abroad should enroll in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> (STEP). U.S. citizens without internet access may enroll directly at the U.S. Embassy. By enrolling, U.S. citizens make it easier for the Embassy to contact them in case of emergency.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's <u>Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet website</u> at http://travel.state.gov, where the current Worldwide Caution, <u>Country Specific Information for Bahrain</u>, <u>Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts</u> can be found. The U.S. Embassy also encourages U.S. citizens to review <u>"A Safe Trip Abroad,"</u> which includes valuable security information for those living and traveling abroad. Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on <u>Facebook</u> as well. You can also download our free <u>Smart Traveler iPhone App</u> to have travel information at your fingertips. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy in Manama can be reached at (973) 1724-2700; the afterhours emergency number is (973) 1724-2957; the fax number is (973) 1725-6242. The Embassy's <u>web site</u> includes travel information and the Worldwide Caution and <u>Demonstration Notices</u>, and can be found at http://Bahrain.USEmbassy.Gov. The Consular Section can be reached at ManamaConsular@state.gov.